

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for storing contact information comprising the

5 steps of:

storing in a database information about a plurality of groups;

storing in a database information about a contact that is a member of at least one of the plurality of groups;

10 linking the stored information about a contact to at least one of the plurality of groups;

receiving a request for stored information about a contact from a user;

15 providing stored information about a contact in response to the request for stored information about a contact.

2. The method for storing contact information of claim 1 wherein the step of storing information about a plurality of groups further comprises:

20 storing a group name for each of the plurality of groups; and

storing a group number for each of the plurality of groups.

3. The method for storing contact information of claim 2 wherein the step of storing information about a contact further comprises:

storing a group number of which the contact is a member;

storing a contact number for the contact; and

30 storing at least one of the group consisting of a telephone number and an e-mail address.

4. The method for storing contact information of claim 2 wherein the step of storing information about a contact further comprises:

storing a group number of which the contact is a member;
storing a contact number for the contact;

5 storing a plurality of telephone numbers for the contact;
and

storing an e-mail address for the contact.

5. The method for storing contact information of claim 1
10 wherein the step of receiving a request for stored information
further comprises:

receiving a group identification from a user; and
receiving a contact identification of the desired contact
from a user.

15 6. The method for storing contact information of claim 5
wherein the step of providing stored information further
comprises:

20 searching the database for a contact having the received
group number;

searching the database for a contact having the received
contact number; and

25 providing at least one of the group consisting of a
telephone number and an e-mail address for a contact found in the
database having the received group number and the received
contact number.

30 7. The method for storing contact information of claim 6
further comprising connecting by telephone the user and a
contact.

8. The method for storing contact information of claim 6
further comprising:

receiving from the user an audio message; and

sending the received audio message to a contact by e-mail.

5 9. The method for storing contact information of claim 6
further comprising:

receiving from the user a video message; and
sending the received video message to a contact by e-mail.

10 10. A method for storing contact information comprising the
steps of:

15 authenticating a user;
receiving group information from a user;
receiving contact information from a user;
storing group information and contact information received
from a user in a database;
receiving a telephonic request from a user for contact
information; and
providing contact information to a user.

20 11. The method for storing contact information of claim 10
wherein the step of receiving group information from a user
further comprises the steps of:

25 receiving a group name from a user; and
receiving a group number from a user.

12. The method for storing contact information of claim 11
wherein the step of receiving contact information further
comprises the steps of:

30 receiving a group number from the user, the group number
defining the group that the contact is a member of;
receiving a contact name from a user;
receiving a contact number from a user; and

5 receiving at least one of the group consisting of a telephone number and an e-mail address from a user.

10 13. The method for storing contact information of claim 12 further comprising retrievably storing the received contact information in a database, the information being retrievable based upon authenticated user information, the group number received, and the contact number received.

15 14. The method for storing contact information of claim 13 wherein the step of receiving a request for contact information further comprises the steps of:

20 receiving a group number from a user; and
receiving a contact number from a user.

25 15. The method for storing contact information of claim 14 wherein the step of providing contact information to a user further comprises:

searching a database for records containing the authenticated user information, the received group number and the received contact number;

25 retrieving contact information from the database; and
using the stored contact information to initiate telephonic communication between the user and the requested contact.

30 16. A system for storing contact information for a user comprising:

a database coupled to a computer network for storing information about at least one group and about at least one contact within the at least one group;

35 a server coupled to the computer network, configured to receive group information from a user, receive contact

1 46919/MAK/B698

information from the user, and to store the group information and the contact information received from the user in the database;

5 a telephone connected to a telecommunications network for communicating with a contact, the telephone being coupled to the server through the telecommunications network;

10 wherein the server is further configured to receive a request for contact information from the user using a telephone and to provide the user with contact information.

15 17. The system for storing contact information of claim 16 wherein the server is further configured to arrange a telephonic link between a user on the telephone and a contact in response to a user request for contact information.

20 18. The system for storing contact information of claim 17 wherein the server is further configured to receive an audio message from the user; and to send the audio message to a contact over the computer network through e-mail information stored for the contact.

25 19. A computerized method for storing contact information comprising the steps of:

30 storing a group number for at least one group;
storing a group number and a contact number for a contact;
receiving from a user a selection of a contact, the selection containing a group number and a contact number;
connecting the user to the selected contact by telephone.

35 20. A computer readable medium having stored thereon a set of instructions including instructions for storing contact information, the instructions, when executed by a microprocessor, cause the microprocessor to perform the steps of:

1 46919/MAK/B698

prompting a user to enter a group name;
receiving from the user a group name;
5 prompting the user to enter a group number;
receiving from the user a group number;
prompting the user to enter a group number for a contact;
receiving from the user a group number for a contact;
prompting the user to enter a contact number for the
10 contact;
receiving from the user a contact number for the contact;
prompting the user to enter contact information;
receiving from the user contact information;
storing the group number, the contact number, and the
15 contact information in a database;
prompting the user to enter a group number and a contact
number of a contact the user wishes to contact;
receiving from the user a group number and a contact number
of a contact;
20 searching the database for a contact having contact
information corresponding to the group number and the contact
number; and
connecting the user to the found contact.

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